

Amendments to the Claims:

Claim 1 is cancelled and claims 2, 3 and 9 are amended as set forth hereinafter.

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Cancelled).

2. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 1, comprising the further step of~~ A method for controlling the speed of a vehicle traveling at an actual speed, the method comprising the steps of:

5 causing the actual speed of said vehicle to track a desired speed;

driving a transmission of said vehicle to downshift to reduce said actual speed; and,

additionally driving a brake system of said vehicle to reduce said actual speed.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said vehicle includes a control system for controlling said actual speed and a drive unit for supplying an output quantity in response to a request of said control system, the method

5 comprising the further step of driving said brake system when [[an]] said output quantity of [[a]] said drive unit of said

vehicle lies below a first value thereof adjusted for an overrun operation in the instantaneous particular gear stage of said transmission which is then engaged.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein said output quantity is a drive torque.

5. (Original) The method of claim 3, comprising the further step of driving said transmission to downshift when said output quantity of said drive unit drops below a second value which can be expected to adjust for the overrun operation in the next lower gear stage.

6. (Original) The method of claim 2, comprising the further step of driving said transmission to downshift after a pregiven time after the start of driving said brake system to reduce said actual speed.

7. (Original) The method of claim 2, comprising the further step of driving said transmission for downshifting in dependence upon an accelerator pedal value.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, comprising the further step of iteratively increasing said accelerator pedal value for a requested downshifting of said transmission.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 7,~~ A method for controlling the speed of a vehicle traveling at an actual speed,

the method comprising the steps of:

5       causing the actual speed of said vehicle to track a desired  
      speed;

driving a transmission of said vehicle to downshift to  
      reduce said actual speed;

additionally driving a brake system of said vehicle to  
      reduce said actual speed;

10       driving said transmission for downshifting in dependence  
      upon an accelerator pedal value; and,

      wherein said accelerator pedal value is changed in  
      dependence upon a difference between an initial deceleration  
      request when activating said brake system and an instantaneous  
15       deceleration request of said brake system.